



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 7 :
B01D 53/34, 53/92, F01N 3/38

A1

(11) International Publication Number:

WO 00/43103

(43) International Publication Date:

27 July 2000 (27.07.00)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/01473

(22) International Filing Date: 21 January 2000 (21.01.00)

(30) Priority Data:

60/116,839

22 January 1999 (22.01.99)

US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): BENTELER
AUTOMOTIVE CORPORATION [US/US]; Suite 500, 50
Monroe Avenue, N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2656
(US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BIEL, John, P., Jr.
[US/US]; 2433 Belknap Avenue, N.E., Grand Rapids, MI
49505 (US). BURCH, Steven, D. [US/US]; 11 Brigham
Circle, Honeoye Falls, NY 14472 (US). HILL, Frederick,
B., Jr. [US/US]; 6748 Knollcrest, Rockford, MI 49341
(US). PENNEY, Terry, R. [US/US]; 2741 S. Coors Court,
Lakewood, CO 80228 (US).

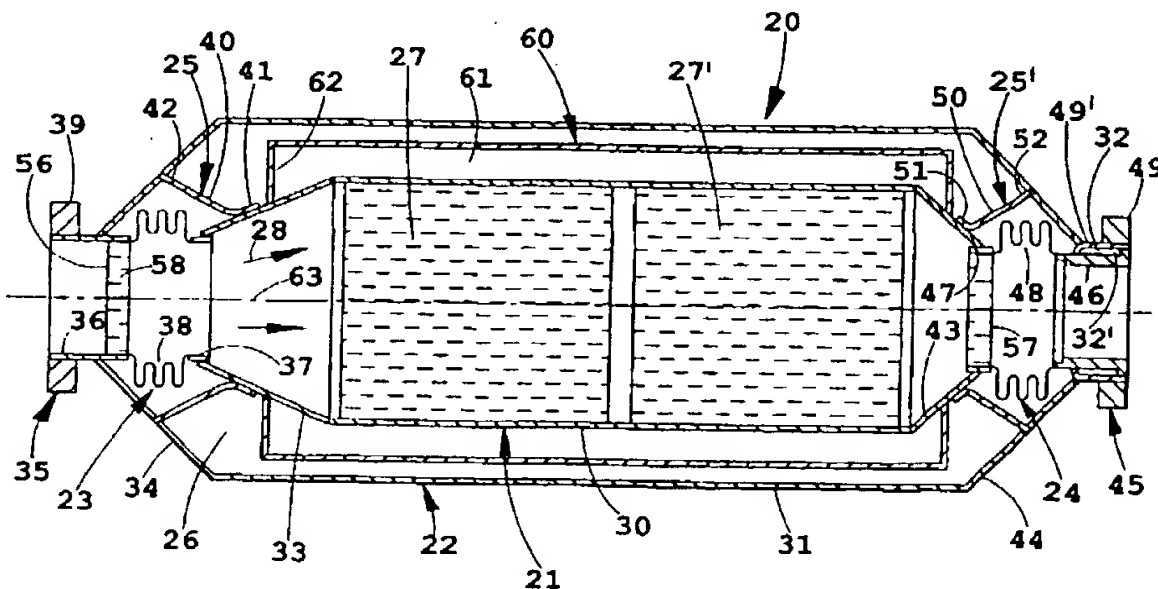
(74) Agent: CARRIER, Robert, J.; Price, Heneveld, Cooper, DeWitt
& Litton, 695 Kenmoor, S.E., P.O. Box 2567, Grand Rapids,
MI 49501 (US).

(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG,
BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE,
ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP,
KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA,
MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU,
SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG,
US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE,
LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM,
AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT,
BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU,
MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM,
GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

With international search report.
With amended claims.

(54) Title: VACUUM-INSULATED EXHAUST TREATMENT DEVICE WITH PHASE CHANGE MATERIALS AND THERMAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS



(57) Abstract

A thermally-activated exhaust treatment device, such as a catalytic converter (20) adapted to control exhaust emissions in a vehicle, includes a core having an inner housing (21) and a catalytic material (27) chosen to reduce undesirable emissions from the exhaust of a combustion engine. A jacker includes an outer housing (22) enclosing the inner housing (21) but characteristically not contacting the inner housing (21). The inner and outer housings (21, 22) include walls (30, 31) forming a vacuum-drawn sealed insulation cavity (26) around the inner housing (21). A chamber (60) positioned adjacent the inner housing (21) includes low melting point metal phase change material (61). A thermal management system is operably connected to the insulation cavity (26) that is constructed to control heat flow from the inner housing (21) to maximize the time the catalytic material (27) is within a predetermined optimum temperature operating range or limit catalyst maximum temperature.